



# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

March 10, 2003

### **FORMER TAMPA POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED**

**TAMPA** -- United States Attorney Paul I. Perez today announced the sentencing of **MATTHEW R. CAMPBELL**, age 27, by United States District Judge Steven D. Merryday. Campbell, a former Tampa Police Department (TPD) officer, was sentenced to 70 months' imprisonment, 3 years supervised release, and \$200 special assessment for conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute the drug MDMA, also known as Ecstasy, and distribution and possession with intent to distribute MDMA, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 846 and 841.

Campbell entered a plea of guilty to both counts before Magistrate Judge Mark A. Pizzo on April 26, 2002, and admitted that he conspired with others to retrieve 1,000 dosage units of Ecstasy hidden in a car that had been impounded by the police. Campbell also admitted that on December 18, 2000, he retrieved the Ecstasy from the car in the TPD Impound Lot and turned them over to the individual who owned the automobile in exchange for ten bottles of the anabolic steroid "Deca."

This case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the Tampa Police Department. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jeffrey J. DelFuoco and Donald L. Hansen of the Tampa Division of the United States Attorney's Office.